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provement in other respects that there should be improvement also in this, and still more in the character of the advertisements admitted into the journal. Such a paper as this ought not on any terms to consent to lend its columns to promote the interests of swindling and gambling concerns, about whose character there can be no question. The code of newspaper morality on this subject is low. Messrs. Harper and Brothers have the power to do something to raise it.

Our historical societies and public libraries throughout the country should secure a complete set of the volumes of the Weekly,—for every year will add to their value as an illustrated record of the times; and as long as the paper is edited as it now is, and maintains the public cause with such vigor, independence, and effect, it will be one of the most trustworthy and important exponents of the better political opinions of the times.

11. — *Johnson's New Illustrated (Steel Plate) Family Atlas, with Physical Geography, and with Descriptions Geographical, Statistical, and Historical, including the latest Federal Census, a Geographical Index, and a Chronological History of the Civil War in America.* By RICHARD SWAINSON FISHER, M. D. New York: Johnson and Ward. 1865. Atlas folio. 104 Maps.

THIS work is the improved successor of that long favorably known as Colton's Atlas. It is the best existing atlas of North America, and it contains very serviceable maps of the other portions of the world, which, though not as good as those in the best foreign works of the kind, are sufficient for most purposes; and the whole is furnished at a price far below that at which corresponding European works can now be obtained. The maps of the United States are of the highest value. They are clear, accurate, and brought up to the present time. The interest which the existing war gives to localities in the States leads to a demand for correct maps, which is amply and satisfactorily met by those contained in this volume. The need of a good atlas, in which the progress of our arms can be intelligently followed, is felt by every family, and we can cordially recommend this work as well adapted to satisfy this general want. Beside the maps, it contains a vast amount of well-digested statistical, historical, and geographical information. A portion of this information is really useful, but some part of it seems to us superfluous, particularly that relating to history and physical geography. The entire contents of the volume may be of value to some of its purchasers, but we wish that the publishers would issue an edition of the maps

alone, without the accompanying letter-press, and without the engravings, some of which are so poor as rather to disfigure than ornament the work. In this reduced form we are sure that it would be welcome to a large public.

The new maps added by Mr. Johnson to the work are admirable specimens of map engraving, and we repeat that the work so far as it relates to America is eminently satisfactory.

12. — *Vanity Fair. A Novel without a Hero.* By WILLIAM MAKEPEACE THACKERAY. With Illustrations by the Author. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1865. 3 vols. 16mo.

"VANITY Fair" needs no recommendation. But this beautiful edition of it deserves special notice. It is worthy of the merits of the novel and of the reputation of the University Press at Cambridge, from which it proceeds. In form, in style, in typographical execution, it is much superior to any other edition of the book ever published either in England or America. The designs with which Thackeray illustrated his works, which are, so to speak, his own commentary upon them, and without which the story loses half its point, — which illustrate Thackeray's character scarcely less than his pages, — are admirably reproduced.

It is pleasant to see the great house of Harper and Brothers engage at length in the publication of a really handsome book, and we trust that its reception by the public may be such as to induce them to proceed with the complete edition of Thackeray's works in uniform style, of which they hold out the promise.

13. — *Wet Days at Edgewood: with old Farmers, old Gardeners, and old Pastorals.* By the Author of "My Farm of Edgewood." New York: Charles Scribner. 1865. 12mo. pp. 324.

MR. DONALD G. MITCHELL is a well-known author and a successful farmer. He tells us that in his farm-house he has a library, of which the eastern alcove is filled with many books in many different languages, — the English, the German,

"The learned Greek, rich in fit epithets,
The Roman eloquent, the Tuscan grave,
The braving Spanish, and the smooth-tongued French."

Of all these tongues Mr. Mitchell is so far master as to read them with